GE Docket: 46PE-7

## N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:		)	
Inventors: Bjorn Bengtsson		)	Group Art Unit: 2858
Serial No.:	09/987,991	)	Examiner: Amy HE
Filed:	November 16, 2001	)	

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VOLTAGE DIVIDER HAVING A GUARD

STRUCTURE

## REQUEST (APPLICATION) FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT

Director for United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit a Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment along with the Submission of Issue Fee for the above-identified patent application (the "Application"). In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.702, 1.703 and 1.705, Applicant respectfully requests the Commissioner to reconsider the patent term of the above-identified invention to compensate for the Assignees' time lost due to examination delay in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (the "Patent Office").

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703 (a)(1), "Period of Adjustment of patent term due to Examination delay, the number of days, if any, in the period beginning on the day after the date that is fourteen months after the date on which the application fulfilled the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371 and ending on the date of mailing of either an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, or a notice of allowance under 35 U.S.C. 151, whichever occurs first".

A timeline of the application is included in Attachment A.

The resulting delay between the fulfillment of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371 and the mailing of the first Office Action was over fourteen months by 11 days. That is, Applicant fulfilled the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371 on 1/29/2002. Fourteen months thereafter is 3/29/2003. The first Office Action was mailed 4/9/2003.

Further, under § 1.703(a)(2), Applicant filed an Office Action response on 1/6/2004. Four months thereafter is 5/6/2004. However, the Notice of Allowance was not mailed until 8/31/2004. Thus, the time period over the allotted four months is calculated to be 117 days.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the term extension should be 128 days, and not the 0 days as indicated on the Determination of Patent term Adjustment.

Applicant respectfully requests that the term of the Application be extended to 128 days to compensate for the PTO examination delay. In order to correct the examination delay and to protect the Assignees from unnecessary loss of patent rights as a result thereof, the Applicant respectfully requests the Honorable Director to exercise the power granted under 37 C.F.R. §§ [1.182 and 1.701] to extend the benefits of 37 C.F.R. [1.702] to this application, and that the term of the Patent issued for the Application be extended in accordance with 37 C.F.R. [1.705].

On the basis of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests the granting of this Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment.

This patent is not subject to a terminal disclaimer. Applicant submits that there were no circumstances constituting a failure to engage in reasonable efforts to conclude processing or examination of such application as set forth in § 704. In particular, Applicant notes that a response to Missing Parts Notice and the two respective Office Action Reponses were filed within the allotted time.

- Attorney Docket No. 59589.000028 Serial No. 09/987,991

Also enclosed is a fee of \$200.00, as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.18(e). In the event that any additional fees are due in connection with filing this Petition, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge all required fees to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS

By:

James R. Miner

Registration No. 40,444

Hunton & Williams LLP 1900 K Street, N.W., Suite 1200 Washington, D.C. 20006-1109 (202) 955-1500 (Telephone) (202) 778-2201 (Facsimile)

Dated: November 30, 2004

## **Attachment A: Prosecution Timeline**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

of:	)			
Bengtsson	) Group Art Unit: 2858			
/987,991	) Examiner: Amy HE			
vember 16, 2001	)			
	VOLTAGE DIVIDER HAVING A GUARD			
PROSECUTION TIMELINE				
Filing of New U.S. Patent Application;				
	Notice of File Missing Parts of Application, icense granted for 12/04/2001);			
_	of File Missing parts of Application, and aration and Executed Joint Assignment;			
Updated Filing Receipt	Updated Filing Receipt;			
03/29/2002 Notice of Recordation of Assignment Document;				
04/09/2003 First Office Action (Non-Final) mailed;				
Notice of Publication of	Notice of Publication of Application;			
Amendment and Reque	Amendment and Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections filed;			
Office Action mailed (N	inal) mailed;			
	PROSECUT  Filing of New U.S. Pate  Filing Receipt; Notice of (Foreign filing license g)  Response to Notice of H Executed Joint Declarat  Updated Filing Receipt  Notice of Recordation of First Office Action (Notice of Publication o			

Submission of Issue Fee Payment,

Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due,

(Patent Term Adjustment indicated as 0 Days);

Amendment;

01/06/2004

08/31/2004

11/30/2004

and Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment.